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C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 000749

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR IO/ , NEA/REA, AND NEA/ARP

E.O. 12958: DECL: 05/19/2014

TAGS: [AORC](#) [PREL](#) [TW](#) [BA](#) [WHO](#)

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE IN SUPPORT OF TAIWAN OBSERVERSHIP AT  
WORLD HEALTH ASSEMBLY

REF: STATE 102782

Classified By: POL/ECON Gregory N. Hicks for reason 1/5(b)(d)

POL/ECON Chief delivered reftel demarche on May 12 to MFA  
Director of International Organization Affairs Ghassan  
Shaikho. He volunteered that the Chinese had already  
approached him on the issue. They assured him, he said, that  
the WHO and Taiwan had developed a mechanism for the WHO to  
work with the Taiwanese together on SARS, despite Taiwan's  
lack of observer status at the WHO Assembly. Without  
offering further substantive comment, Shaikho promised to  
relay our position to the Minister.  
NEUMANN